GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3557
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000
CHANGES IN KAILASH MANASAROVAR JOURNEY PACKAGE
JAI PRAKASH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any report recommending several wide ranging changes in the Kailash Manasarovar journey package;

(b) if so, the salient features of this report;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon; and

(d) the efforts being made to make this journey more comfortable?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a), (b), (c) and (d): Government attaches importance to improving and upgrading facilities for the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra. Based on the information received from the Yatris and reports of the Government appointed Liaison Officers, Government has, from time to time, raised with the Chinese Government the issue of further improving the facilities on their side. Most recently, Government had discussed this issue during the visit of a delegation from the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) of China in June 2000. The Chinese side stated that their efforts to upgrade the facilities for the Yatra were limited by financial constraints on account of the freeze in charges, in place since 1995, at US$ 500 per Yatri. They emphasized the need for upward revision of charges to facilitate further improvements.